

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 083687
ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00
DLOS-09 OES-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 TRSE-00 OMB-01
AID-05 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 OIC-02 /136 R

DRAFTED BY IO/TRC:WADIAMANTI:CMS
APPROVED BY IO:DRTOUSSAINT
AF/W - EESVENDSEN
EB/TCA/MA - CTAYLOR
USCG - CAPT. DHINTZE

-----140427Z 063520 /61

P 140132Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 083687

FOR CLAY BLACK, SHIPPING ATTACHE

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:AORG, IMCO

SUBJECT: LIBERIAN PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE FOR FORMULA OF
ASSESSMENTS IN IMCO
REF: MONROVIA 2460
1. THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA HAS TABLED FOR CONSIDERATION
AT THE MAY 23 MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE
INTERGOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION (IMCO)
A NOTE CAPTIONED "APPORTIONMENT OF EXPENSES" WHICH PROPOSES
A MAJOR CHANGE IN THE MANNER OF ASSESSMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS
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TO IMCO INSTEAD OF THE PRESENT ASSESSMENT ON THE BASIS OF
GROSS REGISTERED TONNAGE (GRT). LIBERIANS PROPOSE THAT
ONLY 1/2 OF THE ASSESSMENT BE ON THE BASIS OF GRT AND THE
REMAINING 1/2 ON THE BASIS OF A MEMBER STATE'S CONTRIBUTION
TO U.N. (THE SO CALLED "ABILITY TO PAY" FORMULA). THE
EFFECT OF THE LIBERIAN PROPOSAL WOULD BE A REDUCTION OF
SOME 500 THOUSAND DOLLARS PER YEAR FOR LIBERIA AND AN

INCREASE OF SOME 600 THOUSAND DOLLARS PER YEAR FOR THE UNITED STATES.

2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO APPROACH THE LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT AT THE LEVEL OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER (DENNIS) OR THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PHILLIPS) AND TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. CONCERNING LIBERIAN COMPLAINT OF EVER INCREASING ASSESSMENTS, EMBASSY SHOULD POINT OUT THAT ASSESSMENTS OF ALL FLAG STATE MEMBERS HAVE INCREASED BY THE SAME AMOUNT AS LIBERIA'S FOR EACH PERCENT OF REGISTRY OF THE WORLD'S MERCHANT FLEET. THE REASON LIBERIA'S ASSESSMENT HAS INCREASED PROPORTIONALLY MORE THAN THAT OF OTHER MEMBERS IS THAT LIBERIA'S SHARE OF THE WORLD'S MERCHANT FLEET HAS INCREASED FROM 5.8 PERCENT TO 19 PERCENT.

B. THE U.N. FORMULA PROPOSED BY GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA IS A POLITICAL FORMULA PROPOSED FOR A POLITICAL ORGANIZATION AND IS NOT, REPEAT IS NOT, GENERALLY APPLICABLE TO TECHNICAL ORGANIZATIONS LIKE IMCO. ITU AND UPU DO NOT USE U.N. FORMULA. WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION (WTO), NEWEST INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION, USES LUSAKA FORMULA.

C. LIBERIAN PROPOSAL WHICH PITS LIBERIA AGAINST SUCH INFLUENTIAL MEMBERS OF IMCO COUNCIL AS CANADA, CHINA, FRANCE, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, ITALY, USSR, AND USA IS DOOMED TO FAIL IN THE COUNCIL. IT WILL HAVE TO BE SENT FOR FURTHER STUDY TO AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP. IT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COULD BE RESUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO THE ASSEMBLY BY LIBERIA WITH THE EXPECTATION OF MORE FAVORABLE RESPONSES FROM MORE NUMEROUS LDC DELEGATIONS. BUT IF IT WERE, IT MIGHT WELL DISRUPT THE HARMONIOUS WORKING RELATIONS OF IMCO.

FYI. TIMING OF LIBERIAN PROPOSAL COULD NOT BE WORSE. THE U.S. CONGRESS ALREADY EXCITED OVER THE RECENT SPATE OF OIL SPILLS NEAR U.S. SHORES, WHICH THEY PERCEIVE TO BE CAUSED BY LIBERIAN REGISTRY VESSELS, COULD REACT VERY UNFAVORABLY TO A LIBERIAN PROPOSAL IN IMCO WHICH WOULD REDUCE LIBERIA'S PRESENT CONTRIBUTION BY 500 THOUSAND DOLLARS AND INCREASE U.S. CONTRIBUTION BY 600 THOUSAND DOLLARS. REMEMBERING THAT "FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE" REGISTRY FOR U.S. OWNED VESSELS IS AT THE SUFFERANCE OF THE U.S. CONGRESS AND THAT SUCH FOREIGN FLAG REGISTRY COULD BE OUTLAWED BY THE MERE PASSAGE OF A LAW, THE LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT MAY WANT TO AVOID PROVOKING THE U.S. CONGRESS AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT LIBERIAN PROPOSAL MAY BE THE
BRAIN CHILD OF GERALD PADMORE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
OR GERALD COOPER, COMMISSIONER OF MARITIME AFFAIRS. SINCE
GERALD COOPER PARTICIPATES IN IMCO MEETINGS AND HAS
ALWAYS BEEN COOPERATIVE AND SUPPORTIVE OF U.S. DELEGATION,
WE WOULD HOPE HE COULD BE INFORMED OF OUR DEMARCHES SO
THAT IF GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA DECIDES TO WITHDRAW IT'S
PROPOSAL, COOPER WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO "GET ON THE BAND-
WAGON AND NOT BE LEFT EMBARRASSINGLY ALONE." END FYI.

3. IN LIGHT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S OIL SPILL INITIATIVES
OF MARCH 17 AND THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING AMIABLE
RELATIONSHIPS IN IMCO, US GOVERNMENT WOULD HOPE THAT
LIBERIAN PROPOSAL COULD BE WITHDRAWN AT THIS TIME.

4. PLEASE INFORM DEPARTMENT OF RESULTS OF YOUR DEMARCHES
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THE MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING OF IMCO WHICH WILL
ARRIVE THERE APRIL 14.

5. ABOVE CONSTITUTES REPLY TO REFTEL (RECEIVED WHILE
THIS CABLE IN PREPARATION).
VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 083687
ORIGIN EB-03

INFO OCT-01 IO-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY EB/TCA/MA:CTAYLOR, JR.:EW
APPROVED BY EB/TCA/MA:CTAYLOR, JR.
IO/TRC:CHARTLEY

-----150744Z 084618 /17

R 150320Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA

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FOR R K BANK, USDEL, UNCTAD COMMITTEE ON SHIPPING

FOL REPEAT STATE 083687 ACTION MONROVIA INFO LONDON USUN
DTD 14 APR.

QUOTE

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FOR CLAY BLACK, SHIPPING ATTACHE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WADIAMANTI:CMS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770129-0067
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770457/aaaabwzr.tel
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 4b3323a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MONROVIA 2460
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2805003
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIBERIAN PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE FOR FORMULA OF ASSESSMENTS IN IMCO
TAGS: AORG, IMCO
To: MONROVIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4b3323a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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